



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the patent application of: :
Edward J. A. Pope and Kenneth M. Kratsch :
For: Preceramic polymers to hafnium : Margaret G. Moore
carbide and hafnium nitride ceramic fibers :
and matrices : Examiner
Serial No. 10/058,808 : Art Unit 3730
Filed: January 28, 2002 :

LISTING OF CLAIMS

To the Commissioner for Patents:

In response to an office action mailed April 16, 2004 the applicants hereby lists their claims:

Claim 1 is cancelled.

Claim 2 is cancelled.

Claim 3 is cancelled.

Claim 4 is cancelled.

Claim 5 is cancelled.

Claim 6 is cancelled.

7. (new) Hafnium carbide containing ceramic fiber derived from a pre-ceramic polymer formed by a process comprising the steps of:

- a. melting a hafnium containing pre-ceramic polymer;
- b. extruding said polymer through an orifice to form fiber;
- c. cross-linking said fiber; and
- d. heating said cross-linked fiber under controlled atmospheric conditions at a temperature greater than 600 degrees centigrade to obtain a hafnium carbide containing ceramic fiber.

8. (new) A ceramic fiber comprising hafnium carbide derived from a pre-ceramic polymer.

Dated: July 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Edward Johansen', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

W. Edward Johansen
Registration No. 26,744